

BY ANY OTHER NAME . . .

Lloyd Shinnars enjoyed classical music, mystery books, and poetry. He exchanged poetry with many of his friends and in one instance his poetic endeavors became intermingled with his journalistic pursuits.

For his new journal, he selected a simple one-word title for (1) simplicity in reference citations, and (2), one that would be familiar to botanists all over the world. The generic name of SIDA (Malvaceae) was chosen as it fit these criteria.

Upon receiving the first two numbers of the new journal, Professor Ewan penned some lines and a "retaliation" was immediately written. Reproduced copies of Shinnars' "retaliation" were inserted (loose-leaf) in the next issue of the journal. With Professor Ewan's permission, the original is reproduced along with Lloyd Shinnars' response (Fig. 1).

Librarians, aware of the "retaliation" with the two lines referring to the abbreviation of SIDA, yet unaware of the generic name, have cataloged the journal in one library as an abbreviation. In another library, however, the journal is cataloged as a one-word title. Inquiries are still received from librarians seeking to determine the correct disposition. WFM

Fig. 1. Holograph and typed response of Joseph Ewan and Lloyd Shinnars respectively.

Date

24 November 1962

To

LHS

From

JE

Subject:

Sat Down Be Sida

Remarks:

LITTLE Lloyd Shinners
 Came home in his flivver
 To eat his schizocarpus pie
 He stuck in his scalpel
 And pulled out a couple
 And said what a good taxon
 am I!

Now jolly Lloyd Shinners
 Replete with new taxa
 Locked up his type bed
 With plantae nondescripta Complexa
 Azolla to Zed
 Pronounced it well said!
Sida! Oh Sida for ages!

TP120-47

LINES PENNED IN RETALIATION FOR J. EWAN'S
 DUBIOUS VERSES PENNED ON THE OCCASION
 OF HIS SUBSCRIBING TO S I D A

Listen, my children, and you shall hear
 Of saucy SIDA's early career!
 On November 23, 1962,
 Two issues were mailed - no less would do
 To hold its omnium-gatherum chatter
 On botany and culture - unprintable matter!
 From Siberia to Bolivia plants now bear
 New names most recklessly published there,
 While botanists smile, or mostly berate
 From Harvard clear to the Golden Gate
 The effort to make of simple history
 Something worse than a murder mystery.
 The name is ancient, but Greek though it be,
 Please don't say that "It's Greek to me" --
 You've two meanings to choose between, you see:

Shinners' Infamous Damnable Activities
 Shinners' Interesting Delightful Activities

Is worse to come? Just wait and see!

26 Nov. 1962